



HR0493

LRB095 12360 KXB 37210 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Village  
3 of West Salem will take place June 29 through July 1, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, The Village was officially incorporated by the  
5 State of Illinois on February 8, 1857; West Salem, population  
6 1100, is located in northern Edwards County in southeastern  
7 Illinois; West Salem is home to the only Moravian Church in  
8 Illinois, as well as being the birthplace of Champion  
9 Laboratories, founded in the 1950s; and

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WHEREAS, In 1814, Edwards County stretched all the way to  
11 Canada and today is the second smallest county in the State;  
12 the first settlers arrived in the area around 1820, and others  
13 continued to make northern Edwards County their home; in the  
14 fall of 1830, a small group of settlers arrived from Davidson,  
15 North Carolina; among them was Peter Hinkle, a Moravian  
16 blacksmith, who arrived in a two-horse wagon with just \$10 in  
17 his pocket; on May 25, 1844, his barn was the site of the first  
18 Moravian Church service; most of the charter members had come  
19 from Salem, North Carolina and the new settlement was called  
20 New Salem; and

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WHEREAS, Since the settlers had come west from Salem, North  
22 Carolina, the name was changed to West Salem in deference to

1 the other New Salem in Illinois; and

2 WHEREAS, From the early beginnings of the Moravian  
3 settlers, a thriving town soon developed; the residents found  
4 success through a healthy mix of agriculture and business; and

5 WHEREAS, Today, the village square stands as a beautiful  
6 reminder of what has been, as well as what is yet to come; the  
7 residents of West Salem have proven to be resilient, and hope  
8 and optimism are in abundant supply as they continuously strive  
9 to improve themselves and their community; and

10 WHEREAS, West Salem is taking pride in "Honoring the Past,  
11 Appreciating the Present, and Planning for the Future";  
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
15 congratulate the citizens of the Village of West Salem as they  
16 celebrate the 150th anniversary of their community; and be it  
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the mayor of the Village of West Salem as a symbol  
20 of our respect and esteem.